

# QUA·RAE

"ERIE'S FINEST AMATEUR RADIO NEWSBULLETIN"

VOL. II NO. 14

SEPTEMBER 1971

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PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE OF REGULAR PROGRAM MEETING FOR THIS MONTH IN ORDER TO OBTAIN SUITABLE MEETING HALL. The slide-tape program will be at MERYCHURST'S Zurn Hall (East 38 Street) on ~~SEPTEMBER 24~~ (FRIDAY). . details inside.

Sept. 24

THE RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE, INC. .... SERVING AREA AMATEURS FOR 26 YEARS.

The Radio Association of Erie, Inc.  
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Erie, Pennsylvania 16512

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L. H. JETER W3HTD  
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ERIE, PA. 16505

JOIN THE **RELIABLE** AMATEURS IN **ERIE** TODAY!

ELECTION REMINDER DE W3ZLO

Not long after the release of this Publication, you will be deciding who you will support for the next years, to help head the Radio Association of Erie in the office of director. While you are Pondering your decision, take a moment to think back and recall the number of directors who have helped advance the club, and those who have sat Passively by and "let George do it."

Since renewing my membership with the RAE, I have seen many things that have made me wonder why it didn't happen sooner. We have no club! We have a bunch of leeches who want some fall guy to do all the work with no thanks, so they can gain the glory. That room at the Red Cross is a place for about 15 so called hams to place their minds for about 3 hours to expound on their great efforts to organize a little meeting and get away from the neighborhood. They exhibit great enthusiasm for ham radio while they are there, but after they leave -- it's a different story! Some hide behind their rigs, others behind their job, some behind a wife and a few still think 11 meters exists. Then the group who does the work, get more work to do and soon they find that they are the only active ones and the others are gaining what little glory comes our way.

Fellow hams! You don't know what activity is! During the recent tropical storm, that hit the East coast, how many of you bothered to check into a net to offer service? How many of you have tried to interest someone else in the "World's most rewarding hobby?" How many of you have helped a fellow ham with a Project, no matter how small? How many of you have really helped to gain recognition for our so-called club? By procrastinating your efforts, you delay the advancement of our activities. Our activities are the only means other than on-the-air QSOs we have to bring our hobby to the attention of the layman.

We, including this writer, are all guilty of tearing down the club and its efforts. Our main target is the People involved in the operation of the club. We need, and will benefit by, young and active blood in the club. Young hams who have the spirit to do something! You old-timers are no longer needed, if you intend to remain on the side. To this club you are as useful as an AM signal on 40M. The ideas of old will not measure up to the Pace of today. Today's youth crave action and education. We, the members of the RAE, have within our ranks the ability to act and educate. All it takes is the fuel to kindle the spark that was made a long time ago by our founders. Let's do it! Together we can make a whole lot of noise; apart we are just little sounds dying in the QRM. Remember that; when you voice your support for those who will lead us in the coming years. Remember the "once a month" voices of leadership, the backer outers, The "has been" who, by choice and egotistical attitude tend to be very active on that first Thursday, but run dry as a bone on the first Friday and thereafter.

As an overloaded final finally dies out, so do the active hams of the RAE. Pretty soon the "Georges" will be all gone and the remainder will be left with the chairs, tables, gavel and the remembrances of the times when we "did something." Let's all try to bring together our membership and help in making the next years much more than just another year. I'm willing to try harder! I am also willing to give it another try even though I almost gave it up. How about you?

Chuck, W3ZLO

\*\*\*\*\*  
JOIN THE AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY CORPS - NOW  
\*\*\*\*\*

STRAYS

- WA3FFD Jim, now a holder of 2nd Phone will soon be emanating signals from W3YA in State College. His new address is:  
Jim Rose, WA3FFD  
458 East College Ave.  
Apt. 315  
State College, Pa. 16801
- WA3JVH RAE welcomes Jim as a new member. Seems he lived in Erie for two years before he knew of the club! He is now in his third year at Gannon, majoring in engineering.
- WA3GIV Hey Fred, how's the weather in W7 land? Must have been K8EURs antenna raising Party that chased him there.
- K8HRS New call sign of the Ashtabula Repeater. It is a memorial station to Alex Dolgosh, Sr. who formerly held the call.
- W3KPJ Hank finds that traveling incognito to hamfests Pays off. Why not get a word to Hank and join the AREC. Erie County could stand a few more members.
- W3QPP Nice to see Paul at the RAE meetings. We look foreward to seeing him on the Sept. 17 activities meeting.
- WA3GSH Barry is now rePeating from Tlonesta with a 50 foot hamshack.
- WA3HDK Speaking of hamshacks, Bob, is doing a remarkable job turning his garage into one. Maybe carpentry is your bag, Bob.
- WA3AWB "Scoop on Wheels."
- K3PLV Craig is now moved into his new QTH and hoPes to have the tower and tribander uP by the time you read this.
- W3HTD Lin talked W3ZLO into grinding a mirror this winter - it only took a trip to an M-31 meeting to do it.
- WA3JAT Jim migrated to Edinboro State this year switching to Political Science. Look out SGA and City Hall!
- WA3COS Dave says his next Project will be to operate Field Day from the top of Devil's Tower.
- WA3HSR After having the rig go out in California, Mike finally solved the trouble when he got back in Erie.
- W3SN Our CW man of action!
- WA3DJT Does Jack really play horseshoes better with one 807 . .or two . .or three . .or
- WA3LSY Will All 3 Ladys Say Yes? Rick says he's looking foreward to having Behrend take uP some time this year.



THE SUMMER NEVER TO BE REPEATED ? DE W3ZLO

The summer of '71 will be well remembered by the users of the ZLO repeater. This summer marked one of the most active summers on VHF that Erie has seen. Beginning with Field Day, the repeater was the RAE's only link with Erie from the site. Even though it was not legal to obtain contacts through it, it was still fun talking to Cleveland, Buffalo, Brantford and Bradford (W3VV) along with WA2UWK and W2SB, all on .94. Running the repeater at 30 watts out and sporting a hot receiver hearing state line to state line, many mobiles traveling on I-90 were placed in motels by calling into the repeater and requesting the service.

A number of minor accidents were reported to the local Police and a young lad is alive today due to quick access to the telephone from the transmitter site. WA3AWB seems to have been gifted with the art of finding good news stories. Maybe Bing is in the wrong biz. It seems that one Saturday he was traveling along East 12th St. near the East Ave. bridge when he saw some youngsters looking at a boy laying on the Pavement. Quickly investigating, Bing found the child in need of quick medical attention, so he broke in on .34 requesting aid. ZLO called the ever ready Police department who in turn called Erie Ambulance by radio and dispatched a car to the scene. Before the ambulance arrived, Bing, a VietNam vet, saw the child beginning to lose his vital signs of life and convulsions began. Bing administered First Aid and sent someone to notify the boys parents who lived close to the accident scene. While passing motorists watched, Bing comforted the injured, failing child until ambulance attendants administered oxygen. Meanwhile on .94, W3ZLO, K8EUR, K8TVD, VE3ADO and others kept the frequency open until word was received from Bing that the child was on the way to the hospital. This time the repeater was worth its weight in Power and gold.

Early in the summer, we received some comments through the grapevine that the operators of the W2SB repeater in nearby Dunkirk, N.Y. were disturbed by the W3ZLO activities on .94 and were not too happy with us. An all out effort was made to clear up the gap between the border and begin a program discussed earlier of linking up Ashtabula, Erie and Dunkirk on a common input of .34. Stan, K2JQT, trustee of the W2SB repeater, was contacted by a personal visit and problems with repeaters and users were discussed. A visit was made to the repeater site, 807s were passed out and a deep discussion began that eventually brought the W2SB group, the K8EUR group and the W3ZLO group together in Erie for a tri-state meeting during the first week of August. This meeting was to bring us all together to iron out interference problems common to each of us and possible ways to overcome them. It was at this meeting that plans were laid to link up all three repeaters so one could begin a trip in Cleveland and travel to Buffalo without losing and contact with a station he is in QSO with.

During the month WA3GIV and W3ZLO made a quick Sunday afternoon visit to K8EUR to raise a 4-element tri-band on the 160 foot tower. Light wind, Alex on the stick with GIV and ZLO grinding the rope into their hands and yanking it up the tower and soon the beam was majestically pointing somewhere on the globe. Next up was the new 450 corner reflector to grasp a signal from nearby Conneaut where the new receiver site was to be and maybe a feeble signal on 450 from Erie. Back home full of 807s and supper, we contacted K3WTZ and plans were made to test the path. The following week we acquired a 450 T44 crystalized up and set up the J-beam at the receiver site. The .34 receiver was moved to .76 to listen to K8EUR, the 450 was fired up and we waited for someone to come on EUR. But then the Law of Murphy took over. K8CQR, the Detroit repeater and others were stomping on .76. We found by the TI theory that we could slip into the insensitive K8EUR receiver good enough to get K8TVD and others to the "corn crib" (K8EUR repeater site). Over the air we heard that Gary's wife (K8EUR is on Gary's farm) had been hearing voices from the corn crib and the unattended Erie link receiver was the only thing with a speaker

DIAR  
W3ZLO

on it. Alex arrived and confirmed it! We were there - - on 450 with only 10 watts going up the tower. But Murphy was still there and it was to take at least a week until the VHF band settled down before we were sure he didn't have his big toe in the works. W3ZLO and his overload of 807s returned home to the xmtr site after the .34 was again put on the link and punched up the .94 receiver. There they were - - KØs, K5s, K7s and VEs galore as all on .94. And down in the mud under the mess was WA3FFD. We called - they answered; we called - they answered all the way from K1 to K5 to KØ. What a night! Well, the sandman hit and the band kept on and ZLO went sound asleep sitting on a tubetester in front of the repeater xmtr dreaming of the great opening. One other troPo opening occurred this summer. This one made the path from W3ZLO to a 10 watt mobile in downtown Buffalo and back. This same opening, also on a Monday, allowed the famous walkie-talkies of Dunkirk to work .94 simplex with Erie, full quieting.

As you can see, these are just the highlights of activity on 2 FM. Would you like to join in? Here you will find a great bunch of guys who are really proud of their work. Now it is possible for a 2 watt walkie talkie in downtown Erie to work a 2 watt walkie talkie in Ashtabula using 34-76. Plans are continuing to extend this to Dunkirk and make the frequency either 34/94; 34/76; 25/85 or 19/79. You pick the input and output - it will be there. As this is being written, the 250 watts for W3ZLO is being assembled. Also to be added very shortly is the new touch-tone auto patch, the CW ID unit and the voting system.

I would like to thank the supporters of the Erie Repeater for voicing their opinions at the August meeting. It is your support that gets results and creates interest in "The Machine."

73s Chuck, W3ZLO

#### SALE, SWAP OR BUY

FOR SALE: Realistic DX-150A Solid State General Coverage Receiver.  
.55 - 30 MHz; Bandspread 80-10 meters; very sensitive and has product detector and good selectivity. Operates on 117 VAC or 12 VDC. - - \$75.00

Homebrew 2E26 or 6L46 6-meter AM transmitter - needs tubes & pwr supply (300v, 300-600v, 12vDC). WILL TAKE BEST OFFER.

Gonset 6 meter mobile converter with noise clipper (tube type). Works with 12vDC into AM Broadcast receiver. WILL TAKE BEST OFFER.

Meissner Signal Shifter - VFO and ECO (xtal) 80-10 meters, 5 watts  
May or may not work. Makes a good boat anchor. First \$1.00 to the QUA-RAE or needy Novice has it for the taking.

I will donate 10% of the cash received from the above to the QUA-RAE.

For all of the above, contact: Rick Robishaw, WA3LSY 864/1820  
Mike Hall, WA3HSR

From, Ron Jakubowski, K3VXE/4

\*\*\*\*\* FEEDBACK \*\*\*\*\*  
 SORRY FOLKS, ANCHORAGE IS NOT THE CAPITAL OF ALASKA! WE'LL TRY AND CHECK  
 NEXT MONTH'S PUZZLE A LITTLE BETTER  
 \*\*\*\*\*



SALE, SWAP OR BUY

FOR SALE: Heathkit DX-60 80-10 meter AM/CW xmtr in good condx  
Heathkit HR-10 80-10 meter amateru receiver in good condx & Ameco PreamP  
Heathkit HG-10 80-2 meter VFO for DX-60 or other xmtr. 5 v RMS drive.  
good condx.

SBE-33 SSB xcvr in good working condx.

CONTACT: Jim Berry, WA3JAT  
833-1919

Heathkit HW-16 CW xcvr.

Mosley RV-4 antenna

Headset & speaker

Key - 5 novice xtals

ALL for \$100.00 CONTACT: Butch Phillips, WN3MTS  
122 W. Kelso Dr.  
838-1020

National NC-121 General Coverage rcvr. .55 - 30 MHz

ONLY \$65.00 CONTACT: Roger Hollenbeck, WN3NOL  
525-4363

WE APOLOGIZE FOR LATE SSB ADS, BUT SOMETIMES WE LOSE TRACK OF THEM. IF YOU DO NOT SEE THEM WITHIN ONE MONTH AFTER YOU SENT THEM, PLEASE CALL THE EDITOR ON THE LANDLINE AND STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT! THANKS FOR BEARING WITH ME.

\*\*\*\*\*

The September activities meeting will be held on Friday the 24th in conjunction with the M-31 Astronomy club meeting in Zurn Hall, Mercyhurst College on East 38th St. The RAE will feature a slide Presentation on the most recent moon landing mission of Apollo 15 and a follow-up show on the Soviet Space Program. These are the latest shows to be released by NASA and it will be the first time that many of these Pictures are shown in the Erie area. Admittance will be free for all RAE and M-31 members with a mere 50¢ charge Per Person otherwise. Come and bring a friend to Erie's first showing of the latest space achievements.

Don't forget to set aside October 9, 1971 for the 26th annual RAE Dinner Banquet. Main Prizes will be an HW-101 with Power supply and a 14" Philco COLOR TV. Tickets for the Prizes can be Purchased for \$1.00 each from RAE members or at the door. Tickets for the dinner itself are \$4.50 Per Person. Reservations may be made through the mail or bought at the door. Included in the price is all you can eat of the delicious Sara Coyne buffet style food, a chance at winning one of the many other door prizes and a front row seat for speakers and noteworthy amateurs who will be in attendance. Awards will be given for the transmitter hunt winners, QUA-RAE writer award and a few surprise awards for individual hams. Pass the word and see you there at the BIG RAE Dinner Banquet on Saturday, October 9, 1971 at Sara Coyne restaurant at the entrance to Presque Isle State Park.

Also in October will be slide and talk show given by Chuck Bliley, K3NAU. Chuck will be discussing his recent trip to the Galapagos Islands. You'll see strange wildlife and beautiful natural wonders when you take a "Tour of the Galapagos" with the RAE on October 21. Location to be announced.

\*\*\*\*\* ELECTION MEETING NOTICE \*\*\*\*\*

Notice is hereby given to all current members of the Radio Association of Erie of the forthcoming elections for Board of Directors. The election meeting will take place at the Red Cross Building on ~~Thursday~~, September 24 at 8:00 PM sharp. As is the case every year, two of six board seats are up for grabs. In order to qualify for candidacy, you must be a current full member of ARRL and have served at least one full term as an RAE business officer. Persons wishing to run for the board seats should turn in their nominating petitions prior to 8:00 PM on the 26th. These petitions, in order to be valid, must be signed by at least five (5) current RAE members. Only current RAE members are eligible to vote in this election. BE SURE AND BRING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD TO THIS MEETING! A master list will be used in cases of question or if you don't have your card. Be thinking about possible nominees and be sure to come and exercise your right as a member of the RAE.

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HEAVY LOAD

Carrying a chip on your shoulder  
can be a mighty heavy load. AND...  
If the shoe fits wear it.

Anonymous

I am looking forward to seeing  
this in the QUA-RAE.

Thank-you

This little note was recently received in the mail. We are constantly searching for someone to help with the writing chores here, but definitely would like to have the author sign his work. If he wishes, we'll not publish his identity, but it makes it easier to pass the buck when the Board of Directors breathe down our necks when we know who wrote what. HI Seriously, though, we think the "scoundrel" was "funning" us, but if he wasn't, we've only used up a little space - and that may be an appropriate tribute to our mystery author.

THE FINAL FINAL

As I begin my second year as a co-editor of the QUA-RAE, I look ahead to another full year of activities, contests, transmitter hunts and new experiences. With each new issue, the grind seemed to get harder and harder last year especially after losing K3VXE to Uncle Sam. With the coming year, I hope that some of you will do what you evidently put off doing last year - that is writing an article for your newsbulletin. You may not realize it but any kind of new item helps out. Whether it be a stray, a SSB ad, a criticism of club operation or a full length manuscript of your recent vacation. The QUA-RAE should feature YOUR news, not the small tidbits that I manage to think up almost every month. It used to be that I took pride in seeing what I had written in the QUA-RAE but now I don't even bother to read it since I've read it many times while writing and typing it out. The fun has vanished and so will the newsbulletin if things don't change.

My staff has been faithful and has managed to keep their heads up even though the going got a bit rough. For this I thank them and hope it was not all in vain. I also take pleasure in announcing that there will be an award winner for the QUA-RAE article contributed by a non-staff member given at the dinner banquet. In fact it was about the only outside contribution. If you think I'm painting a dismal looking picture, you're right. After several months of asking, one begins to tire of harping for news and loses some of his fight.

I am willing, however, to put last year's experiences behind and try again with renewed vigor. I'm not quite sure what keeps renewing the vigor but it always comes back sooner or later as you just can't give up something that you enjoy doing, deep down. I hope to see you at the upcoming dinner and hopefully by next month, we'll get the letter "P" fixed on this typewriter. Thanks for putting up with it.

8- 73s Mike, WA3HSR



# • SEPTEMBER • 1971

| SUNDAY                                              | MONDAY                                 | TUESDAY                             | WEDNESDAY                | THURSDAY                                 | FRIDAY                                                       | SATURDAY                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                        |                                     | 1                        | 2 R.A.E.<br>BUSINESS MEETING<br>8:00 PM. | 3                                                            | 4                             |
| 5 NETS<br>6 & 10 METERS<br>NEBRASKA<br>"QSO" PARTY  | 6 LABOR DAY<br>NEBRASKA<br>"QSO" PARTY | 7                                   | 8                        | 9                                        | 10                                                           | 11 ARRL<br>VHF<br>"QSO" PARTY |
| 12 NETS<br>6 & 10 METERS<br>ARRL VHF<br>"QSO" PARTY | 13                                     | 14                                  | 15                       | 16                                       | 17 THIS WKS<br>MEETING<br>MOVED TO<br>SEPT 24                | 18                            |
| 19 NETS<br>6 & 10 METERS<br>RAE<br>XMITR HUNT       | 20                                     | 21 R.A.E.<br>DIRECTORS<br>ELECTIONS | 22 YL<br>"HOWDY<br>DAYS" | 23 YL<br>"HOWDY<br>DAYS"<br>ALSO SEPT 24 | 24 RAE<br>SOCIAL MT.<br>ZURN HALL<br>SPACE PK<br>MERCY HURST | 25 ARRL<br>VE/W<br>CONTEST    |
| 26 NETS<br>6 & 10 METERS<br>ARRL VE/W<br>CONTEST    | 27                                     | 28                                  | 29                       | 30                                       |                                                              |                               |

## OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER 2 - R.A.E. Monthly Business Meeting at 8 PM in the Red Cross Building.  
 SEPTEMBER 6 - LABOR DAY (Less than 4 months till Christmas Hi!)  
 SEPTEMBER 11 & 12 - D.A.R.C. (Germany) W.A.E. "Phone" Contest.  
 SEPTEMBER 11 - 12 & 13 - Washington State "QSO" Party.  
 SEPTEMBER 19 - R.A.E. Monthly Transmitter Hunt on 6 & 10 Meters.  
 SEPTEMBER 25 & 26 - NORTH DAKOTA "QSO" Party  
 OCTOBER 7 - R.A.E. Monthly Business Meeting.  
 OCTOBER 9 - R.A.E. Hamquet at the SARA COYNE RESTAURANT  
 NOVEMBER 13 & 14 - ARRL SWEEPSTAKES "Phone"  
 NOVEMBER 20 & 21 - ARRL SWEEPSTAKES "CW"

1972 R.A.E. MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS WILL BE ACCEPTED STARTING  
 OCTOBER 1, 1971 AR JOIN THE R.A.E. TODAY.



Come to the...

**R.A.E.**

ANNUAL

**HAMQUET '71**

SATURDAY

• OCTOBER 9, 1971 •

— at the —

SARA COYNE RESTAURANT

(formerly the BEACHCOMBER)

"on the Peninsula"

• DONATION •  
\$4.50 Per Person.

• PRIZES • AWARDS • SPEAKERS •

PRIZES

- HEATH HW101 TRANSCEIVER •  
(INCLUDING AC POWER SUPPLY)
- PHILCO COLOR TV SET •
- DOORPRIZES •

AWARDS

- TOP SCORER OF TRANSMITTER HUNTS •  
(6 and 10 Meters)
- QUA-RAE WRITER AWARD •

SPEAKERS

- GEORGE JACOBS, W3ASK - PROPAGATION EDITOR OF CQ MAGAZINE •  
and OTHER NOTABLE SPEAKERS.

FOR ADVANCED RESERVATIONS, DETACHE AND MAIL THIS, OR CONTACT "HAMQUET '71"  
CHAIRMAN - CHUCK SMITH, W3ZLO AT THE RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE, INC.,  
P.O. BOX 844, ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA 16512.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

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